Detection of *Campylobacter* Antibodies in Swine Meat Juice - A first case study

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Introduction: The genus *Campylobacter* is a gram-negtaive, non-spore forming rod with several species. *Campylobacter* infections are present in the intestine of many animal species and has been isolated, for instance, from cattle, sheep and pigs, respectively. In the majority of cases the isolation of *Campylobacter* merely indicates an a-symptomatic presence in the gut, although it also can be associated with enteritis. The aim of this study is to check the possibility using serological antibody detection for the estimation of the herd prevalence of *Campylobacter* infections.

Material and Methods: Antibody response to *Campylobacter jejuni/coli* was investigated using an enzym-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). A mixture of lipopolysaccharide from two different *Campylobacter jejuni/coli* strains as antigen were used in the ELISA and the results of 500 Meat Juice samples showed different antibody levels. The antibody response (IgG, IgM, IgA) was examined in all samples.

Results: The results indicated that the serodiagnosis of *Campylobacter jejuni/coli* infection by ELISA is specific and sensitive regarding each tested Immunglobuline. The ELISA for *Campylobacter jejuni/coli* can improve the diagnosis of campylobacteriosis for clinical and epidemiological purposes.

We are currently performing the ELISA tests on the Meat Juice samples and our results will be presented at the symposium.